

865.4491

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

YUMIKO KATO

Appln. No.: 09/642,807

Filed: August 22, 2000

For: VIEWFINDER OPTICAL
SYSTEM AND OPTICAL
APPARATUS

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) Examiner: Unassigned
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) Group Art Unit: 2872
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:
) October 22, 2001
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G. Stanley
10-24-01

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

ELECTION OF SPECIES

Sir:

In response to the Election of Species Requirement of September 21, 2001, Applicant elects with traverse the invention of Species I, directed to Claims 2-19, 39-56, 58, 59, 63 and 64. Since Claims 1, 20, 57, and 60 are generic, Applicant requests that these claims also be examined.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the Election of Species Requirement. It is respectfully submitted that it is not mandatory for the Examiner to make a Election of Species Requirement in every possible situation. It is earnestly believed that examination of all of the claims by one Examiner will best ensure that there will be uniform prosecution quality. Moreover, it is submitted that all of the claims can be searched by one Examiner without undue effort and a duplicative search by two Examiners may possibly produce inconsistent results. In addition, it is believed that if one Examiner acts on all the claims of the present application, overall examining time will be less than if two Examiners are involved. Therefore, in the interest of prosecution quality and economy

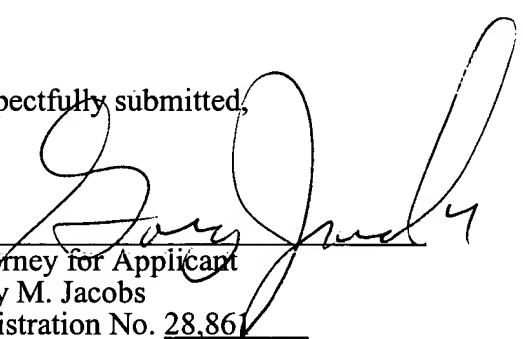
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for both the Office and Applicants, withdrawal of the election of species requirement in this application is appropriate and is respectfully solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicant
Gary M. Jacobs
Registration No. 28,861

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile No.: (212) 218-2200
GMJ/ljp

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